

VITAL TIMES QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER**Virginia Department of Health, Division of Health Statistics****December 2008-February 2009, HAPPY, HAPPY, HAPPY HOLIDAYS****Induced Termination of Pregnancy Form, Which form is your Facility/Hospital Using?**

The Division of Vital Records and Division of Health Statistics have identified several hospitals/facilities that are using the incorrect VS-5A, Induced Termination of Pregnancy, (ITOP) Form. Please check your ITOP form, (brown border) and make sure that in the lower left hand corner the form has VS-5A 10-02. A sample of the correct form is included in this newsletter. Some hospitals have been submitting the older VS-5A 01-99 or VS-5A 01-90 forms. Please dispose of those old forms and call Vital Records at (804) 662-6233 to order a supply of correct ITOP forms.

Please remember, when the Other (Specify) box is checked under Type of Termination (Field 18) on the ITOP form, you must specify the type of termination. A large number of facilities are checking the Other (Specify) box and then listing a medication instead of the type of termination. If the induced termination of pregnancy results from the use of drugs such as Mifepristone, (Mifeprex or RU-486), Misoprostol, (Cytotec) or Methotrexate or any other drug/medication, please check box 5, Medical (Nonsurgical) and list the medication(s) used.

Just a reminder, under Virginia Law (Code 12VAC5-410-1260), all induced termination of pregnancy reports are to be filed within 10 days of the abortion with the Division of Vital Records, and the Vital Statistics Monthly Fetal Death Report is to be filed with the Division of Health Statistics no later than the 10th day of the following month. If you have any questions or need reporting forms please contact Huston Kitts at (804) 662-6280 or by email at Huston.Kitts@vdh.virginia.gov.

VITAL RECORDS CHART OF CURRENT FORMS: The chart below lists the Vital Records forms and their current versions which your hospital/facility should be filing with your local health department.

Type of Certificate/Form	Current Form Number and Date
Induced Termination of Pregnancy	VS-5A 10-02
Certificate of Death	VS 2 07-04
Fetal Death Certificate	VS 5 03-05
Hospital Monthly Vital Statistics Report	VS 33 08-03
Vital Statistics Monthly Fetal Death/Induced Termination of Pregnancy Report	VS 34 03-07

If you have outdated forms please destroy them and call Vital Records at (804) 662-6233 to request the correct certificate or reporting form. If you need form VS-34, please contact Huston Kitts at (804) 662-6280.

Missing Data on 2008 Fetal Death Certificates

In tracking the 2008 fetal death certificates that have been received through August of this year, we have found that important information is again being left off the certificates. It is critical that the physician's estimate of gestation field is filled in on all fetal death certificates. Hospitals will be receiving a report from us later this month notifying them of the certificates they have filed that are missing the gestation period. The education field is also missing on a large number of certificates. We ask all hospitals to focus their efforts on ensuring that the gestation (Field 26), education, (Field 14) race, (Field 10) and patient married to the father (field 13) are filled in correctly.

Fetal Deaths 2006 Compared to 2007

In 2006, Virginia reported 6,918 fetal deaths. Preliminary data for 2007 shows that fetal deaths increased by 6.4% to 7,362. The number of total pregnancies in 2007 rose by 1.9% from 140,416 in 2006 to 143,071 in 2007. The number of live births rose 1.8% from 106,474 in 2006 to 108,417 in 2007.

Induced Terminations of Pregnancy 2006 Compared to 2007

Preliminary data from 2007 shows that induced terminations of pregnancy, (ITOP) increased by 1% from Virginia's 2006 total. In 2007, a total of 27,292 induced terminations of pregnancy were reported compared to 27,024 in 2006.

Fetal Deaths & ITOPs

The information that your hospital/facility records on the fetal death and ITOP certificates is very important. The completeness of data directly affects the accuracy of our statistical reports and the data that we transmit to the National Center for Health Statistics, (NCHS).

Important Health Related Websites

There are several websites where you can find information relating to the collection of data and how it is used to form local, state and national statistics. The table below lists some websites that you can scroll through to find tables, charts and articles relating to pregnancy, fetal deaths and induced terminations of pregnancy, as well as numerous other health related topics.

Agency	Web Address
Virginia Department of Health	http://www.vdh.virginia.gov
Division of Vital Records	http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/Vital_Records/index.htm
Division of Health Statistics	http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/HealthStats/index.asp
Center for Disease Control	http://www.cdc.gov/index.htm
National Center for Health Statistics	http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/Default.htm

Missing 2008 Fetal Death Certificates

Keep an eye on your mailbox as we will be sending all hospitals/facilities a report showing the 2008 fetal death certificates that have not been received at the state office. Those reports will start going out in the mail in mid to late December. If you have missing certificates you will be instructed to send a copy of it to us. It is important that we get in all fetal death certificates as soon as possible so that we can close out the 2008 data year.

2007 Preliminary Data Release

Our annual preliminary release of vital events data was sent out in early October to the health districts and updates for 2007 were subsequently added to our department web site. For specific information on vital events data in your area and around the state, please see the reports, data tables and summary data sections of our website.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS HAPPY HOLIDAYS HAPPY HOLIDAYS HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Everyone at the Divisions of Vital Records and Health Statistics would like to wish you and your family a happy holiday. Our hope is that everyone will have a joyous and happy holiday season and a prosperous and happy New Year.

INDUCED TERMINATION OF PREGNANCY SAMPLE FORM, VS-5A 10-02

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA REPORT OF INDUCED TERMINATION OF PREGNANCY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH - DIVISION OF VITAL RECORDS RICHMOND			
REGISTRATION AREA NUMBER	REPORT NUMBER	STATE NUMBER	
PLACE OF INDUCED TERMINATION OF PREGNANCY	1. NAME OF HOSPITAL OR FACILITY OF OCCURRENCE		2. COUNTY OF OCCURRENCE (IF INDEPENDENT CITY LEAVE BLANK)
	3. CITY OR TOWN OF OCCURRENCE INSIDE CITY OR TOWN LIMITS? <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO		4. STREET ADDRESS OR RT. NO. OF PLACE OF OCCURRENCE
USUAL RESIDENCE OF PATIENT	5. STATE (OR FOREIGN COUNTRY) OF RESIDENCE		6. COUNTY OF RESIDENCE
	7. NAME OF CITY OR COUNTY WHERE YOU ARE A RESIDENT <input type="checkbox"/> CITY <input type="checkbox"/> COUNTY		
INFORMATION ON PATIENT	8. PATIENT IDENTIFICATION		9. EDUCATION (specify only highest grade completed) Elementary / Secondary (0-12) College (1-4 or 5+)
	10. OF HISPANIC ORIGIN? If yes, specify Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, etc. <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	11. RACE	12. AGE years <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
INDUCED TERMINATION OF PREGNANCY	14. DATE OF PREGNANCY TERMINATION (Month, Day, Year)		
	16. DATE LAST NORMAL MENSES BEGAN (Month, Day, Year)		
	17. PHYSICIAN'S ESTIMATE OF GESTATION Weeks None <input type="checkbox"/>		
	18. TYPE OF TERMINATION PROCEDURE (Check only one)		
	15a. Now living Number None <input type="checkbox"/>		15b. Now dead Number None <input type="checkbox"/>
	15c. Spontaneous Number None <input type="checkbox"/>		15d. Induced (Do not include this termination) Number None <input type="checkbox"/>
	19. WAS THIS ABORTION PERFORMED BECAUSE OF A KNOWN GENETIC DEFECT? <input type="checkbox"/> UNK <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> YES (Specify)		
	20. SIGNATURE OF PERSON COMPLETING REPORT TITLE (Type or print)		
	21. NAME OF PERSON COMPLETING REPORT (Type or print) DATE		

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<p>Look for the next issue of Vital Times in March 2009. Send in your questions and suggestions for articles to Huston Kitts before February 10, 2009.</p>

HAPPY

HOLIDAYS